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TheHighlander

Thursday **April 17 2025** | Issue 685

INSIDE: HOME IN THE HIGHLANDS **FREE**

Dangling the carrot

Michelle Jeffrey and Jay Jeffrey help feed a goat at The Wild Life, in Eagle Lake, during a Seed and Soil workshop April 8. *Photo by Justin Belanger.* See more photos on page 13..

SIU investigates Minden shooting

By Mike Baker

Ontario's Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is investigating the death of a 60-year-old man in Minden Hills April 13, following a shootout between the man and Haliburton Highlands OPP officers.

Monica Hudon, SIU spokesperson, said three investigators and three forensic specialists have been on-scene at a residence on Gelert Road April 14.

She said police responded to a call at approximately 5:30 p.m. Sunday after someone reported concern for the wellbeing of a man. Officers were told the man had left his Gelert Road property with a firearm.

Soon after, police arrived on-scene and located the man near the intersection of Gelert Road and Ingoldsby Road. There was an exchange of gunfire between officers and the man, who was by then hidden in some bushes.

Once gunfire ceased, officers approached the bushes and found the man deceased. His fatal injury was determined to be self-inflicted, Hudon said.

Haliburton Highlands OPP issued a media release Sunday notifying people of an investigation on Gelert Road. They said there was no threat to public safety. The road was closed from Louise Lane South to Ingoldsby Road for two days.

The SIU is an independent government agency that investigates the conduct of police involved in incidents that resulted in death, serious injury, sexual assault, and discharge of a firearm at a person.

Investigators must consider whether the officers involved committed a crime. Depending on the evidence, SIU will direct criminal charges be laid where there are grounds for doing so or close the file.

While Hudon said provincial legislation prohibits her from releasing the name of the deceased, *The Highlander* has confirmed it's Steven Tripp, a Dysart et al municipal employee.

Ministry says 'no' to Land Trust reserve

By Lisa Gervais

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) said on April 14 it will not proceed with the establishment of a new conservation reserve in Haliburton County's Milburn Kendrick area.

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust had expressed interest in creating an 8,500-hectare reserve in part of the area in its Highlands Corridor.

However, this past Monday, the ministry informed interested parties "the Crown lands included in this proposal will continue to be managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)."

They added information about current uses for the area can be found on the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas.

"Stakeholder input is important to us, and we are committed to engaging with affected communities to ensure all voices are heard in conservation discussions. And future proposals for new protected areas under the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act 2006* will include public and indigenous consultation on the proposed boundaries, land uses and permissible activities," Kirsten Service of the MECP said.

John Davidson, of Wilberforce, helped create the Citizens for Crown Land Protection (CCLP) group. It quickly formed after hearing about the Land Trust proposal and held a packed open house at the Haliburton Legion March 23.

Davidson said on April 16, "I think they (the ministry) listened to the input from the public and made the right decision."

Continued '**County**' on page 2

Highlander news

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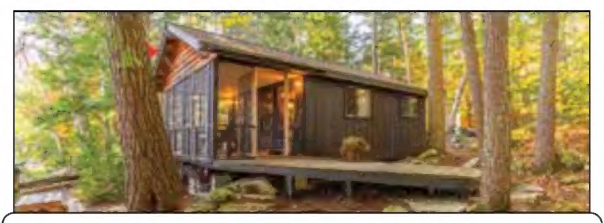

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John Davidson of Wilberforce led the CCLP efforts. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

County meeting not needed

continued from page 1

He said he was proud of residents "who were so willing to take part and learn about it and take the action needed."

Davidson attributed a quick decision to their efforts, saying they had been in contact with the MECP and various organizations "from the minute we started."

The group has maintained management of public lands must remain vested in provincial and local governments, "and not be directed by any special interest group." They opposed redesignating huge blocks of public land from general use Crown land to conservation reserve. They added the area is significant due to good stewardship by MNRF, MECP and municipalities. They felt a conservation reservation manager would have extraordinary powers under the Ontario Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, "not in the public interests of the population, the economy, and general public."

Land Trust board chair, Todd Hall, said on April 16, "the provincial decision not to proceed with the conservation reserve designation is regrettable. In such an ecologically-sensitive area, this level of protection makes a big difference. We were not alone in a wish to ensure that generations to come could enjoy recreation in this special place. We thank the Bancroft Minden Forest Company, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, and the many citizens who enthusiastically supported HHLT's conservation efforts."

> *"In such an ecologically-sensitive area, this level of protection makes a big difference.*
>
> ***Todd Hall***

The County of Haliburton said Monday that as a result of the decision, a rescheduled public meeting by the County regarding the reserve has been cancelled.

On March 26, the County organized a public meeting to provide an opportunity for the public to present comments to County council regarding the proposal, which would then be summarized and forwarded to the MECP as feedback.

That meeting was postponed that morning due to a medical emergency, with a plan to reschedule. On April 14, the County said the meeting is no longer required.

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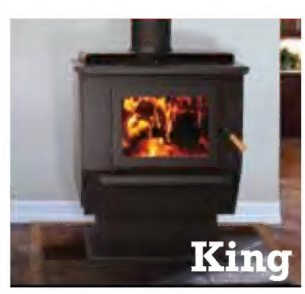

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Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter at the town's fire hall. *Photo by Lisa Gervais*

Minden Hills on flood watch

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter said downtown Minden is not out of the woods yet when it comes to the potential for flooding.

"We're going to be on flood watch right through to next weekend. It's not over at that point, but that's our critical time," he said April 14.

He said while warming temperatures are maximizing snow melt in the County, "north of here, we still have significant snowpack. Even if it isn't a lot of snow, it's very dense. It's got a lot of water in it."

He said Parks Canada is shifting water through the system.

Carter said, "we thought it was going to be this past Monday and Tuesday's (April 14-15) weather event. It's actually going to be the weather at the end of this week." Environment Canada is calling for rain April 18 and 19.

That said, the mayor added if the weather forecast holds true with minimal precipitation, "we'll be able to get through this."

He said the key thing is the amount of precipitation and where it falls.

"If it happens in Minden and Gull Lake, we've got no problems. If it happens on Kennisis, then we've got problems."

He added the Burnt River is in decent shape, with water levels going down, and low precipitation numbers.

"It's the Gull River, so it's downtown Minden, unfortunately."

Ice storm update

Carter said in the aftermath of the ice storm, there is "virtually full restoration of power" except for people who have cottages on islands. With the ice, he said Hydro One can't get to those properties. "There are a lot of places where poles are still down that they can't access even with their equipment."

He added the township did wellness checks last week, "but almost in all cases they are cottages or people who have left." For example, he encountered an older woman who told him she had temporarily left her house and moved in with her daughter.

On April 14, the township essentially wound up its warming centre, but were still offering people showers if needed.

They have been offering free brush dumping at Scotch Line landfill, and Chelsea Cosh, manager of waste facilities said they have had 1,590 cubic yards of brush come since April 1.

Carter added the township and County of Haliburton are still doing road cleanup.

"You can see the shoulders are still blocked, and then we have to figure out how and what we're going to be able to do to help people with this brush and that's going to take a lot of planning because you need equipment and manpower and chippers are dangerous, so it's not like anybody can be doing this and that's going to be the big next stage."

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Highlander news

HE sending warning letters to STR operators

By Lisa Gervais

Coun. Angela Lewis asked what the township would say to short-term rental owners operating without a licence. *File.*

Highlands East prefers "the carrot to the stick" when it comes to its short-term rental bylaw, but junior planner Kim Roberts put operators on notice at a meeting April 8 that they will crack down on people who operate without licences.

She told council they had received 41 applications as of their meeting date last Tuesday. Some 22 have been approved, 10 rejected, and nine are pending. Roberts said the knock backs are due to either insufficient septic capacity, or building code infractions that are being followed up with by their building department.

In updating council on the bylaw, the junior planner said applications, and inquiries, have continued throughout February and March, and staff are working on finalizing the conditions of approval with a number of earlier applicants. She said the short-term rental licensing clerk has been providing outreach through social media and mass e-mail.

They have also noticed an increase in shoreline purchase applications, while encroachment agreements had also been flowing into the planning department as a result of the new bylaw.

Roberts noted first warning letters will be issued in two batches to property owners identified as being short-term rental operators, but who have not yet applied for licences; the first in the second week of April and the second in the first week of May. Actual enforcement of the new bylaw will begin June 1.

Coun. Angela Lewis asked what the township would say to short-term rental owners operating without a licence.

"We're really encouraging folks to get their applications in," Roberts said. "We are starting to more vigorously review where we're seeing listings (and) revenue coming into short-term rentals. And the host compliance program actually scrapes a lot websites to post some of that information for us.

"So, we're starting to see where folks are still actively renting, and we haven't received something from them. Those folks are going to be the first ones to receive their warning letters. It's always better to voluntarily comply and get your stuff in."

Roberts added if anyone had concerns, they should contact planning staff. She said they're trying to take an educational approach, "however, when June 1 comes along, unfortunately, if we have folks who are persistently not getting the information in to us, we will be having to issue orders and those orders may, and probably will, have administrative penalties attached to those."

For example, she said every time someone is caught renting out without a licence, they can incur a $250 fine. She said the licence is $500 "so it's much more affordable to start working through the process with us now.

"We're doing our best to help people sort out situations where maybe they have concerns about shore road allowances or septic or things like that …it's better to get started now versus us having to potentially shut you down which we'd really rather not do. We'd rather work with the public and operators. We'd rather use the carrot than the stick at this point so we really encourage folks to contact us if they have questions or concerns."

The planner that the legal challenge to Tiny Township's short-term rental licencing bylaw was heard in Superior Court and a decision was issued on March 24, upholding the legality of the bylaw in its totality.

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SPRING LOAD RESTRICTIONS (HALF LOADS) IN EFFECT

Half Load weight restrictions are placed on roadways and posted each year in the spring for approximately 1-2 months. Persons contravening this regulation will be prosecuted under Section 122 of The Highway Traffic Act. Please watch for and obey posted signage.

HOLIDAY HOURS

The following Township of Minden Hills offices and facilities will be closed on Friday, April 18 and Monday, April 21, 2025, to celebrate Easter.

- Municipal Administration Office (7 Milne St.)
- Fire Hall Administration Office (12418 Hwy. 35)
- Minden Hills Cultural Centre (176 Bobcaygeon Rd.)
- SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena (55 Parkside St.)
- The following facilities are open as follows:
- S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena: April 19 & 20 8am-9pm
- Minden Hills Cultural Centre: April 19 from 10am-4pm

All waste disposal sites will be open on Easter Monday and will operate on Sunday hours. Regular winter hours will apply for all other days.

COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

April 24 – Regular Council Meeting
May 8 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

ICE STORM UPDATES

The Township of Minden Hills declared a state of emergency on March 31, 2025, due to the Ice Storm. Since then, Township staff resources have been allocated to the emergency. For the most recent updates about the state of emergency and resources, please visit the News & Notices page on our website, follow our Facebook page, and join our website notification system to receive alerts at: subscribe.mindenhills.ca.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

As per provincial legislation, fire season starts on April 1 and ends on October 31 in any given year. There is no daytime burning permitted. Fire restrictions are from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. No person shall start a fire outdoors during the restricted time in fire season.

MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- *We're Still Talking*, an exhibit of fibre works by local artists Sandi Luck, Nadine Papp and Wendy Wood will be on display until May 10 in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation.
- *We Were Taught Differently (Bakaan nake'ii ngii-izhigakinoo'amaagoomin)* an exhibit created by The MUSE (Kenora, Ontario) will be on display until June 28 in the Welch Room. The exhibit examines the Indian residential school experience, most particularly in the two schools that were located in Kenora – Cecilia Jeffrey and St. Mary's. Admission is by donation.

For information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763

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Highlander news

Silver Beach group blasts Wig delays

By Mike Baker

Silver Beach resident Rick Perkins said he was jumping for joy when demolition of the neighbouring Wigamog Inn property began in April 2023. Now, with work at the site paused for the past two years, he notes many residents of the mostly-retired community have had enough.

The property, owned by Aurora Group, has been slated for demolition since mid-2022, with workers tearing down about a dozen of the property's 36 accessory buildings between April and June of 2023.

The project has been on pause since then, with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) following up on reports of at-risk species being found at the site. Last year, the ministry confirmed the presence of endangered bats and the eastern hog-nosed snake, notifying Aurora Group of the need for further environmental studies before work can proceed.

Perkins said the Silver Beach board has been following the story closely, hoping for a resolution. With little recent movement, he said their patience is wearing thin.

"The number one responsibility this board has is the financial viability, safety and wellbeing of this community. This issue with the Wigamog is starting to impact those things," Perkins told *The Highlander*.

Silver Beach has 59 properties, most of them occupied by seniors. Perkins said some who had planned to stay for a short time before moving into long-term care, or elsewhere, are now running into trouble when trying to sell.

He said prices are down about 10 per cent compared to the market, with many would-be buyers concerned about the state of the Wig.

"It's a mess and everyone can see it. There's no escaping it – many owners, the first thing they see when walking out their front door, is a big pile of debris from buildings that were torn down and left to rot," Perkins, who lives close to the property line along William James Court, said.

Rick Perkins, president of the Silver Beach board of directors, wants to see the neighbouring Wigamog Inn property cleaned up this summer. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

Jimmy Roberts, who resides in a townhouse on Webb Circle, said he's worried about the possible contaminants he and other residents may have been exposed to.

"The roof of the one lodge completely caved in [over winter]. What sort of stuff has that thrown into the air? There has to have been asbestos in there given the age of the building… the paint is lead-based, what's that doing? We're worried it could be leaching into the ground, our water supply, even the lake," Roberts said.

Perkins noted the community is on a well system that goes through a water treatment facility before entering people's homes.

With the pause attributed to the possible presence of at-risk bats and snakes, Perkins said some residents are starting to feel like second-class citizens.

"We feel we've been relegated to the lesser issue, below some at-risk species… to say the crumbling buildings can't be touched because they might be – not are, might be – home to bats and a snake that's very populous in the U.S., it's a bitter pill for us to swallow."

Taking action

The Silver Beach group recently sent letters to Dysart et al council and MPP Laurie Scott calling for either party to step in and speed-up demolition.

Dysart mayor Murray Fearrey said the township has been trying to get the property cleaned up. Prior to Aurora Group starting demolition in 2023, council advised staff to put out a tender of its own having been embroiled in years-long debate over the property's condition. Last fall, council again tried to take over tear down efforts, directing staff to apply for special approval with MECP.

Bylaw officer Hailey Cole told *The Highlander* April 15 an application was not submitted, despite the paper reporting in its March 13 edition, following a report from Cole to council, that one had been denied.

"Apologies for the misunderstanding… I had indicated the steps needed to complete the application could not be accomplished within the timeframe we had to work with," Cole said.

It was estimated clean-up could cost the municipality around $800,000.

MECP spokesperson Lindsay Davidson indicated the ball remains in Aurora Group's court.

"In accordance with the requirements of the *Endangered Species Act* and prior to demolition activities, the property owner is required to determine whether any species at-risk or their habitat exist at or near the proposed activity, and whether the proposed activity is likely to contravene the act.

"In addition, a waste audit and reduction work plan, and a source separation program, which identifies the various on-site waste streams and recycling, reuse, and/or disposal options are required under Ontario regulations and Environmental Protection Act," Davidson said.

Scott said MECP staff visite the site in September 2024 "to assess conditions and identify no significant environmental concerns on or off-site."

She noted the ministry has confirmed the township, via it's property standards bylaw can remove standing debris from already torn down buildings.

Fearrey said council is considering next steps, with a recent development requiring legal input. He said he could not elaborate by press time. Efforts to reach Aurora Group for comment were unsuccessful.

Point in Time
Centre for Children, Youth and Parents

Board of Directors Opportunity

Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents, provides a broad range of services including mental health, child development, youth justice and the Haliburton County Youth Wellness Hub.

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Point in Time seeks, whenever possible, Board members who are representative of the following diversity standards: race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, record of offences, marital status, family status, disability, or consumer of services.

For more information, please visit our web site: https://www.pointintime.ca/opportunities/volunteers/

The Anglican Parish of Minden, Kinmount, and Maple Lake

Easter Services

Maundy Thursday - April 17th
St. Paul's, Minden at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday - April 18th
St. Paul's, Minden at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday April 20th Easter Sunday
Shared service of St. James, St. Peter's & St. Paul's will be at St. Paul's Minden at 10:45 a.m.

Reply by May 15

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Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Wayne Krangle recently received a King Charles III Coronation Medal for his Syrop for Soldiers initiative. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Charity maple syrup maker giving back

By Lisa Gervais

It's a sunny spring afternoon as Wayne Krangle feeds firewood into his maple syrup evaporator at his property on Binscarth Road in Haliburton County.

Dressed in a camo cap, green shirt, khaki pants, with white suspenders, he walks around his production factory in boots with cleats as it's still slippery with ice.

Three feeder lines carry sap from the many collection barrels on his property, coming from some 250 maple tree taps.

In a trailer by the evaporator, one can see a stereo, toaster oven and microwave because when the sap's running, Krangle isn't.

It's the 16th tap for Krangle. It's hard to know how much time and money he has put into it. But the profit is zero, since every botte of maple syrup he produces under Syrop for Soldiers goes to charity: Wounded Warriors Canada. He'll likely top the $100,000 mark this year in sales on behalf of the registered Canadian charity that supports and assists wounded Canadian soldiers, and, in more recent years, police, fire and EMS personnel.

Krangle was recently awarded a King Charles III Coronation Medal for his work.

"I didn't do this for a medal," he says, standing up after loading the wood-fired evaporator.

His son, Chuck Krangle, did a tour in Afghanistan, and went on to become a police officer. However, Krangle isn't just doing this for his son.

A couple of years after Chuck came home from Afghanistan, he recommended his dad read Christie Blatchford's book, *Fifteen Days*. In the book, Blatchford describes 15 battles she witnessed from the the inside of a Canadian tank.

"She talked about some of the carnage that our fellow countrypeople have suffered because of being in battle; people with legs blown off, eyes out, half a brain. I'm a grown man and I never cry, but by the time I finished reading that book, I had tears in my eyes," Krangle shares while seated in the trailer next to the evaporator.

He retired in 2009 to a property full of maples. He pondered making maple syrup. "I thought it would be very cool that if you poked a hole in a maple tree, and sap came out, and you got to make maple syrup, how special would that be?"

> *"I'm a grown man and I never cry, but by the time I finished reading that book, I had tears in my eyes.*
>
> ***Wayne Krangle***

'It's magical'

He took a one-day course in Dorset in February 2010 offered by the Ministry of Natural Resources. At the end, he and a buddy concluded, "you have to be crazy to make maple syrup. There's no money in this." So, he put the idea on the backburner. But a couple of days later, at 2 a.m., he awoke to the thought of what if it wasn't about making money, but for a purpose. Two days later, and another 2 a.m. thought of doing it for people that have been in the military and suffered; the very people Blatchford wrote about.

He asked Chuck for ideas, and his son suggested Wounded Warriors Canada.

The first year, Wayne tapped 40 trees, running around on a snowmobile with a generator, long extension cord, and an electric drill. "I was so excited the next morning to go and see my buckets." He evaporated sap on a pan on a fire on a cement block in front of his house. But the wind kept putting the fire out. That Canada Day, he sold his first batch at a neighbourhood party.

The next year, he got bigger and better, buying an evaporator to service 250 taps. He began seasoning firewood. It's grown from there.

He's proud of the medal, but says he's not about to march down Highland Street wearing it on his chest.

"I've always felt that Canada is the best country on the planet, and I've always felt that it's been really good to me and my family, and I've always wanted to give back, and this is my way," he says.

There's something very peaceful, sitting here in the sun amid the trees, the sweet smell of sap being turned into liquid amber.

"It's magical … a day like today, this is as good as it gets." Krangle says. "I've been here in sleet, snow, fighting to keep the sap flowing through the tube. There is something really special about taking nature's gift and making such a delicious product."

Ironically, Krangle did not know maple syrup prior to this; growing up in a house that had Bee Hive corn syrup. And, now, he's made $100,000 worth of the stuff for Wounded Warriors Canada.

"That's pretty cool and everybody loves maple syrup."

Find out more at SyrupForSoldiers.com

...JOIN THEM AT thehighlander.ca

Dan Gimon, a father, husband, coach, friend

By Mike Baker

Game days for volleyball players at Hal High will never quite be the same again after the recent passing of Dan Gimon, a celebrated long-time coach and maintenance worker at the school.

Gimon passed away April 8 at the age of 63 following a lengthy battle with prostate cancer. A celebration of life was held at Bonnie View Inn April 12, with about 230 people attending.

He spent more than 20 years working at Trillium Lakelands District School Board, where he looked after all seven schools in Haliburton County.

While Gimon was largely known as 'coach' to hundreds of Highlanders, those who knew him away from the court referred to him as 'MacGuyver' his wife, Andrea Borysiuk, tells *The Highlander.*

"He was an electrician by trade. He loved messing around with things and seeing what he could do. A super intelligent guy – he could fix anything," Borysiuk said, as neighbours of the couple's Drag Lake home could attest to. "Half the time the phone rang at home, it was someone asking if 'MacGuyver' was around because they had something they needed fixing."

Gimon was always the first to help in a pinch. Borysiuk remembers one time shortly after the family permanently relocated to Haliburton County after years cottaging in the area. It was 2006. The year an F1 tornado touched down near Drag Lake.

He was still working away in Oakville at the time. He quickly made his way home after hearing about the tornado and, after checking in with his family, immediately got to helping neighbours with clean-up.

"He must have started more generators that day than anyone else on Drag Lake," Borysiuk said.

The couple were married for 30 years, having one daughter, 23-year-old Natalya. Fitting given the passion that spilled over into the community later in life, but it was volleyball that brought them together. Borysiuk was an up-and-coming student athlete at Dalhousie University, with Gimon a player at Durham College. Their coaches were asked to appear at an Olympia Sports Camp in Huntsville and the pair tagged along to help.

"It was a total set-up," Borysiuk said. "From that day on, we were just a part of one another's life."

The pair dedicated their working lives to the local school system – Borysiuk was a teacher and, later, principal in Haliburton. She said Gimon loved interacting with students. He established a robotics club at HHSS and got involved in volleyball in 2018, when Natalya joined the Red Hawks girls' team.

She said it was an incredible experience having her dad as coach, which he also did at club level with the Orillia Suns.

"There was nobody I would rather have coach me. In terms of game IQ, dad was pretty unmatched… when he started coaching the high school team, he wanted to change the narrative about how the sport was viewed there. Other teams would look down on us because we're a small school, but he was able to motivate people to be better than they thought they could be," Natalya said.

Being a girl dad, Borysiuk said Gimon was passionate about instilling confidence and belief in young women.

"He was very strong in his mindset that girls can be just as good as boys. He wanted these women to be able to stand on their own two feet, not be intimidated by anything, and to see their potential as athletes, as students, and as women," she said.

He was diagnosed with cancer in March 2019, when Natalya was in Grade 12. A difficult time for the family, Gimon did what he did best – cracked a joke and pushed forward with a smile.

"Nothing phased him – he was always about finding ways to persevere. Even when he got sick. He'd look for even the smallest positive," Borysiuk said.

Tributes pour in

HHSS teacher and current volleyball coach, Justin Collins, said Gimon was one of the first people he met when he moved to the community in 2019. The pair quickly hit it off.

Dan Gimon, a HHSS staple for 20 years, passed away April 8. Pictured with wife Andrea Borysiuk, daughter Natalya, and dogs Emee and CJ at their Drag Lake home. *Submitted.*

"Word got out that I was a volleyball coach and he found me right away. We shared countless really good conversations about coaching. We also played together in the Monday night league at Hal High – he had a great mind for the sport," Collins said.

In recent years, Gimon coached the girls team and followed the boys squad, which Collins managed.

"Every single home game, Dan would be there watching and providing scouting reports and feedback based on what he saw. For away games, I knew that whenever I got on the bus there would be a text or a missed call from him," Collins said. "That first away game is going to hurt not seeing his name pop-up.

"When you're talking contributions to volleyball at Hal High and Haliburton in general, the conversation starts and ends with Dan Gimon," Collins added.

Gary Brohman was principal at HHSS when Gimon was hired in the mid-2000s.

"He was always a gentleman," Brohman told *The Highlander.* "Very knowledgeable in the field on maintenance, technology and, of course, volleyball. You never heard anybody say a bad word about him. I worked with him for many years and nothing stumped him. He was first class."

Current principal Jenn Mills said Gimon's loss will be felt at the school for some time.

"Even though he worked for the TLDSB facilities department, we felt Dan was on our staff since he was responsible for the Haliburton-area schools and spent [so much] time here. He could do anything and would any time we needed him," Mills said.

Last June, Gimon was presented with the Red Hawk Athletics Impact Award for his contributions to the school's volleyball program. Borysiuk said it was one of his greatest honours.

With Natalya recently taking the reins from her dad in running the community league in town, she's made it her mission to ensure his spirit lives on. Borysiuk said the family is taking donations for a scholarship it hopes to launch in Gimon's honour.

"That's the sort of thing he'd love to be remembered by," she said.

Editorial opinion

TheHighlander
Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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Audited Circulation 8,871 (Jan 1 - June 30, 2017)
Canadian Media Circulation Audit - Canadian Community Newspapers Association

We acknowledge and appreciate financial assistance from the Government of Canada

What a gong show

By Mike Baker

By Mike Baker

It's hard not to feel for the residents of the Silver Beach community on Wigamog Road.

For as long as I've worked in this community – four-and-a-half years now – the 59-unit development's immediate neighbour to the west, the Wigamog Inn, has been a dilapidated mess. It's largely been that way since its current owner, Aurora Group, purchased the site in 2015.

Once considered one of the Highlands' shining attractions, the lights went out at the Wig many moons ago, never to return. Though grand plans were announced in the infancy of Aurora Group's ownership, to redevelop the site into a massive residential community five times the size of Silver Beach, no design proposals, build permits, or feasibility studies have ever been submitted to the township.

Despite some Silver Beach residents calling out council for the inaction at the site, first a group last summer and more just last week, it should be stated the township is stuck between a rock and a hard place here.

Back in 2022, the previous council, at the recommendation of the township's property standards committee, suggested Dysart should force tear down by giving Aurora Group a hard deadline to submit a demolition plan. When that came and went, the current council opted to issue its own tender to bring someone in to do the job.

Before they could hire anyone, Aurora Group sent crews out to start work. About a dozen of the property's 36 outbuildings were torn down between April and June 2023 before the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) stepped in. Officials followed up on reports of at-risk species residing at the site, confirming the presence of bats and the eastern hog-nosed snake.

Since that confirmation, work has remained paused with the ministry requiring Aurora Group to conduct more studies to ensure the creatures don't have habitats in or near the buildings slated to be torn down.

By all accounts, it seems that's where things still stand today. We have asked MECP officials on numerous occasions if there are any deadlines in place for this additional work, but have received no response.

Given the well-documented issues township staff and others have had with Aurora Group at the Wigamog Inn site and Pinestone Resort, leaving something of this magnitude in their court, with no timelines, is a recipe for disaster. At least for the Silver Beach folks. In a recent meeting, one man, Jimmy Roberts, joked that some would have an unscheduled visit with a local funeral director before seeing the Wig cleaned up. Grim, but those are the kind of thoughts that have been pounded into residents through years of inaction.

Another question we put to the MECP recently focused on the debris left behind from those cabins torn down two years ago. Was any testing done there to rule out dangerous contaminants seeping into the soil and/or atmosphere? Or how about the roof of the main lodge, which collapsed in on itself this winter? We didn't get a response.

It seemed tongue-in-cheek at the time, but the more I think about it, Perkins was justified with his quip that he and the rest of the Silver Beach community feel like second-class citizens given how little they've been thought of throughout this debacle. Lower on the totem pole than some at-risk bats and snakes.

While many feel unnecessary bureaucratic red tape holds up much-needed residential development, so too does it delay even more necessary demolition jobs. The pen does not discriminate.

If what we're hearing is true, it appears there's even more to come on this story before it can be put to bed. The issue will be discussed by council at its April 22 meeting. Apparently there has been a submission by Aurora Group to merge the Wigamog Inn and Pinestone properties – which do connect – a move that would further complicate council's attempts to intervene. Attempts to confirm with Aurora Group have been unsuccessful.

What a gong show this latest, hopefully final, installment of the Wig story in Haliburton has become.

GUEST COLUMN

A good life for all: pie in the sky?

By Judy Paul

I want to live in a country in which the conditions needed to flourish are available for everyone.

Consider Finland, a country where post-secondary education is funded by the state. Finns from all socio-economic levels have the opportunity to develop their abilities if they so choose. Finns have publicly-funded long-term elder care, pensions, affordable daycare, generous pregnancy and family leave, a world class education system, and generous sick pay. Not surprisingly Finland was named the 'happiest country' by the 2025 World Happiness Report, which measures life satisfaction indicators such as social support, freedom, generosity, GDP per capita, and healthy life expectancy.

Canada has slipped to 18th, and while not a bad ranking, there is room for improvement. What can we learn from the top countries? Citizens in Nordic countries tend to see taxes as an investment in well-being. There is widespread support for taxes in exchange for programs and services that facilitate individual freedom, opportunity, and well-being.

I am not suggesting life is perfect in Finland, Sweden, Norway and Denmark, but for several decades, these countries have produced strong economies with effective social programs. I have adopted this Nordic attitude towards taxes. My children are grown but I am in favour of affordable, quality daycare because reducing stress for families results in more productive workers who stay engaged in the labour force, and we all benefit.

If I disagree with how the government spends tax revenue, I can vote against the party in the next election, send letters expressing my opinion, and get involved in advocacy to influence government decisions. Will cutting taxes and decreasing the size of government build a better future? In his recent book *Invisible Doctrine*, George Monbiot warns about the unintended consequences of smaller government. As the state provides fewer effective public services and does not redistribute wealth in a way that protects those at the bottom, "our ability to change our lives through voting diminishes".

We are told we can vote with our money, but in this scenario some people have more voting power than others. Journalist Anu Partanen grew up in Finland. After moving to the U.S. and comparing the two countries, she attributes the success of Nordic countries to their 'smart' government and a fair tax system: "Personally I was able to live my life in Finland not only taking pride in my own achievements but also taking pride in my participation in a social contract that went to extraordinary lengths to give every individual a fair shot at success".

She argues Nordic societies take the job of governments seriously, continually tweaking systems to make improvements. Their well-functioning social services prove that there is nothing inherent in government that automatically makes it less efficient. In these uncertain times, we want a strong economy, however what is the purpose of an economy if not to ensure a good life for all?

Judy Paul is a member of Haliburton Basic Income Group

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Questioning Grace Lake tower

Dear editor,

Grace Lake property owners recently got a tip that Rogers Communications Inc. proposed to build a 60-metre 5G cell tower some 750 metres from the south-west shoreline.

After winning the 2021 $300 million Eastern Ontario Regional Network award, a fund buttressed by $152 million in public funds, Rogers boasted they would build 50 new cell towers in Haliburton County by 2025.

In 2023, Rogers, surprisingly, had their Clement Lake tower request denied by Highlands East on a risk to human habitation grounds. Rogers has since pivoted to another nearby site, Grace Lake. This forced relocation also switches responsibility to Dysart et al., where no policy governing tower locations exists.

On April 9, Rogers held a Zoom 'information session' for Grace Lakers 'hosted' by a contracted 'site acquisition specialist'. A request was made for a Rogers expert employee to attend to handle technical questions, but we were told it was not possible. The 'host' deflected most health-related questions, saying he was forbidden from answering them due to provisions in ISED, Safety Code 6.

The dangers posed by cell tower radiation to human habitation and wildlife in the area is a valid concern. Former Microsoft CEO Frank Clegg made this point clear in a video where he challenged then Rogers president Dean Provost to show evidence that 5G tower radiation was safe. [youtube.com/watch?v=LqPJxyeDqYo]. To date, Rogers has not met the challenge posed by Clegg.

But it is far from the only unanswered question as Rogers prepares to pitch its Grace Lake tower to Dysart council. Grace Lakers wish to know more about the 'near field' and 'far field" impact from the tower's electromagnetic radiation. For example, there are three small waterbodies within or bordering the proposed tower's exclusion zone. Will aquatic life live or die? What about wavelength interference with bee and bird navigation around Grace Lake? Silence so far.

Rick Arnold
Grace Lake

On the state of democracy

Dear editor,

I advocate for a fairer, more modern, more representative electoral system and here we are two weeks from a very important federal election.

I looked carefully through the April 10 edition of *The Highlander* for comments by your readership and didn't find any. That's a distressing surprise. And, yes, I have noticed your comments in the past on low voter turnout.

I can confirm there are civics classes in the Gr. 10 curriculum at the high school but I have heard they are not very engaging. There is little buy-in from the students.

I can quote many knowledgable people, let me just mention one, Prof Timothy Snyder asserting that democracy in the U.S. among many other countries is imperilled. I would recommend the CBC radio program *Ideas* which just tonight, April 14, broadcast a discussion with Snyder on the subject. Very topical now, and interesting.

Oh yes, I have become aware that there are legal restrictions on local papers and other media like yours and *The Echo*. On the other hand, there are many places on the internet operating with very few restrictions. I don't think ordinary people appreciate the danger of this.

Finally, I have been advised that efforts to advocate for better elections, in two words, proportional representation, are too hard for voters to understand. Really? Is that so? You will find Snyder saying practising democracy is a difficult and unusual practice. I would like to find a full discussion of this.

Oh, let me just observe that a number of countries seem to do this better than us. I admire the progress that The Republic of Ireland has made dealing with civil war, impoverishment, not to mention famine, colonial oppression, and sectarian violence, and now in a much better place, I think.

Jim Milne
Haliburton

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Grace Shuurman snaps a spring sweetie.

Encouraging federal voting

Dear editor,

From the time I received my Canadian citizenship in 1958 at the age of 20, I have voted in every election.

Having come to Canada from war-torn Germany, I deeply understood the value of democracy in ensuring freedom, protecting against persecution, and preventing dictatorship.

My voting decisions have often been guided by the qualities of the most impressive local candidates. Despite my commitment to voting, I have only attended two political rallies: one in 1961 in Port Arthur/Fort William (now Thunder Bay) and another recently here in Haliburton. In 1961, I had the privilege of hearing Tommy Douglas speak. By then, he was a seasoned and influential political leader, known for his pioneering work in universal healthcare and social reform.

Recently, on Monday, April 7, I attended a rally for Nell Thomas, the Liberal candidate for Haliburton–Kawartha Lakes. Unlike Tommy Douglas, Nell Thomas is a first-time candidate; her impressive resume as a health professional and general practitioner, her lifelong commitment to community work, combined with her heartfelt authenticity and convictions, left a strong impression on me.

What prompted me to attend a political rally again after a 64-year hiatus was my growing concern about the uncertain times we face today. The prospect of losing Canada to authoritarianism or seeing our freedoms erode is too serious to ignore. This letter is motivated by my deep concern for our democracy. It is of utmost importance that all Canadians exercise their democratic right to vote. As the saying goes: "Vote as you please, but please vote."

Armin Weber
Eagle Lake

NATURE'S CALLING

A cautionary tale from the pond

By Toni Cooper

March was quite the month. With warm temperatures and a significant amount of rain, nature awakened from its winter slumber. The snow was finally melting, and the familiar sounds of spring began to emerge. However, with the arrival of milder weather came the need for caution as we navigated our beloved outdoor spaces.

In our backyard, we have a pond that becomes a winter playground. Every year, my partner diligently carves out a snowmobile trail around it, allowing me to take leisurely walks or let our dog run around in the snow. But this year was different. Mother Nature, in her whimsical way, gifted us an abundance of snow, making it hard to discern where the pond began and the solid ground ended.

On March 11, I decided to venture out with my snowshoes and the dog, excited by the sunshine and fresh air. Nanuck was bouncing along beside me enjoying the beautiful day. But in a split second, everything changed. Unbeknownst to me, the snowmobile trail had veered over a section of the pond, which was now cloaked in a deceptive layer of snow, Suddenly, I found myself plunging into the icy water below.

In an instant, panic set in. The shock of the cold water sent waves of fear coursing through me. I held onto the edge of the pond, desperately trying to keep my head above water, but my snowshoes and boots felt like anchors weighing me down. Time seemed to stretch as I fought to calm my racing heart. Then I remembered that my cell phone was in my hoodie pocket. With great effort, I submerged my arm into the frigid water and tossed it onto the snowbank.

I managed to activate Siri on my Apple Watch and called Traviss for help. "Traviss, I have fallen in to the pond and I can't get out." My voice was frantic, and I could sense his immediate concern. He hung up and called our neighbours while I continued to struggle. Miraculously, after what felt like an eternity, I managed to free my boots and crawl out of the water.

But my ordeal was far from over. With only my wet socks on, I had to walk to the house in the knee-high snow. This was a battle, as I could no longer feel my body. My energy was waning. I laid down in the snow realizing I couldn't make it, and with that thought I called Traviss to tell him I loved him.

Thankfully, our neighbour came to the rescue and helped me to the house. I am sharing this story, not to elicit sympathy, but to remind everyone that even in the comfort of our backyards, nature can pose hidden dangers.

Today, I'm grappling with frostbite on my feet, hands and face, as well as PTSD, but I am healing. I urge everyone to stay vigilant in these unpredictable conditions but also savour the joys of the outdoors.

I'm grateful to be here, sharing this column with you, and hope it serves as a reminder to prioritize safety while enjoying the beauty that spring has to offer.

Remember, enjoy nature.

Highlander business

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Highlander scoops six awards

By Mike Baker

The Ontario Community Newspaper Association (OCNA) held its 2024 Better Newspaper Competition awards banquet in Niagara Falls April 11, with *The Highlander* recognized in seven categories – including two first place finishes.

The only locally owned newspaper in Haliburton County scored top honours for Best News Story and Best Headline Writing, placed second in Feature Writing and Environment Ontario, and third for General Excellence and Best Feature/News Series.

The paper also received an honourable mention for Best Front Page.

There were significant changes to the awards structure this year, with publications split into three categories rather than four. This year, awards were separated for those with circulations 1,500 and under, between 1,501 and 8,000, and 8,001 and up. Previously, classes were set at 1,999 and under, 2,000 to 6,499, 6,500 to 12,499, and 12,500 and up.

This change saw *The Highlander* competing on the upper end of the scale for the first time, alongside major outlets from across the province. Publisher Heather Kennedy said it was nice to see the local newspaper stand up against other, more circulated publications.

Editor Lisa Gervais was credited for her "great work" covering the story of Haliburton Highlands OPP detonating explosives found at a cottage in Algonquin Highlands, earning first for Best News Story. The paper also won the Best Headline Writing award for 'Getting the scoop on Kawartha Dairy.'

Publisher Heather Kennedy is proud of the six awards. *Photo by Mike Baker*

Assistant editor Mike Baker took second in Environment Ontario for a feature story breaking down the first year of shoreline preservation and site alteration bylaws in Haliburton County.

Gervais' first-person account of the final bus service TOK Coachlines ran from Haliburton to Toronto scooped second in Feature Writing, with the judge saying it "made for an enjoyable read."

She was also awarded third in Best Feature/News Series for a five-page spread featuring three news stories and an editorial on deer feeding in Dysart.

After three straight first-place finishes for general excellence from 2021 to 2023, *The Highlander* settled for third in this year's awards.

"Well done Highlander team for a great newspaper" the judges wrote.

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Highlander business

Turning a bad bunkie into a rad bunkie

By Lisa Gervais

The folks who've brought ice fishing hut, lobby, and restaurant makeovers, to Haliburton County are back with a new contest.

Starting today (April 17) until May 19, people can nominate a bunkie on their property for a makeover by ACM Designs.

Founder and principal designer, Andria Cowan Molyneaux said, "I've actually wanted to do bad bunkie for a few years. I think it's really fun and funky for what is probably the most cottage space of the cottage. It's quintessential."

Another reason Cowan Molyneaux likes the pivot to a bunkie, from a larger business space, is "I love the fact we can have a big impact; to transform a building into the place that people fight over because it is smaller. But in keeping with traditional ACM style, we need to make it fun and wacky and really approachable because that's who we are. We are professional and very technical, but we are very approachable, and we are really part of this community."

She is also looking forward to the opportunity of getting out onto Highlands' lakes. "Usually, cottages that are on the lake have bunkies. These are the extra sleeping quarters, and that's fun. When we do these programs or campaigns, the great thing is the more over the top, or entertaining the entries are, the more they catch our eye and then we bring it down to the three finalists, and then it goes out to the community to choose. So, it's not really us choosing, It's a competition. That's fun,"

She said with big lobby, and big restaurant, it was about helping other businesses.

"In this case, this is about increasing our exposure and doing it in a fun and playful way. We get to showcase what we're really great at, as both big lobby and restaurant makeover have won multiple awards for design and execution, so that's very exciting, and being able to do that now in a bunkie is an exciting opportunity."

Cowan Molyneaux added, "it keeps us local. This is part of our marketing strategy. It's (bunkies) certainly part of the culture here. Typically, a bunkie is at a cottage. A cottage is a second property. Those people that have cottages are a huge part of our County. If we don't acknowledge that, then we're being naive, and we're also being disrespectful. It's a way for us to engage that part of this community that cares and gives for Haliburton very much."

They don't have design ideas yet. That will only come when they see the winning entry. "It's relevant to its location, its environment, to the primary building; you want it to be harmonious, and it needs to reflect the owners. It's not about causing great shock and awe. It's about taking a space and making it function for its intended use and making it aesthetically pleasing.

"We Canadians have had a helluva' few months, and for a lot of people coming here, whether they're short or long-term residents, part of this place is about being welcoming and cozy. Being able to make the bunkie cozy and a super awesome spot will provide some respite from a lot of the stress we're feeling right now," the designer added.

Master carpenter, Cedric Butz, with ACM Designs founder and principal designer, Andria Cowan Molyneaux. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

To submit photos and or videos, DM the Bad Bunkie Makeover, Facebook page or email nicole@acm-designs.com Finalists will be announced May 23. The contest is valued up to $40,000.

Highlander health

The emergency department in Haliburton is getting a new doctor. *File.*

County gets new ER doctor

The County of Haliburton, along with the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), announced this week that Dr. Harrison Bishop will be joining the emergency department team as of July 1.

Dr. Bishop attended medical school at the University of Queensland in Australia and completed Family Medicine residency at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. He recently received additional certification recognizing his expertise in emergency medicine and has maintained a position at Queen's as an adjunct professor.

He is originally from Southeastern Ontario. Dr. Bishop came to Haliburton in 2024 with his family to explore practice opportunities in the emergency department.

The County said, "he holds a passion for teaching."

"I look forward to contributing what I can to the already excellent emergency department at HHHS. My professional interests include the application of point-of-care ultrasound in emergency medicine, both as a diagnostic aid and for its use in procedures.

"I have a love for teaching and find having learners an incredibly rewarding and humbling experience," Dr. Bishop said.

HHHS said it's excited to advance an initiative for a novel approach to simulation-based learning in emergency medicine for rural and remote settings under Dr Bishop's leadership.

Dr. Keith Hay, chief of staff at HHHS added, "as we continue to face the challenge of providing healthcare in a rapidly evolving environment, having a physician of Dr. Bishop's calibre will enhance the level of care we are able to provide."

Warden Dave Burton said. "I want to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Bishop and his family and express my enthusiasm that he has chosen our County to practise and live in." *(Lisa Gervais)*

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Highlander environment

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For the love of seeds and animals

Saturday April 8, Minna Schleifenbaum and her husband, Phil Primavera, hosted a Seed and Soil workshop at their farm, The Wild Life, in Eagle Lake. There were presentations on different soil types in the area, and how certain seeds will respond better to them. Along with some agricultural education, there was also a farm full of animals for families and visitors to come and see. Touring around the farm with a bucket of carrots and other tasty barnyard snacks, you could feed the animals and say hello. They had a little bit of everything from emus, horses, deer, goats and pigs to baby rabbits. Top Left: A volunteer speaker educating the public about the importance of which seeds do well in which types of soil. Middle Left: A goat and a sheep posing for a picture. Bottom Left: Dad Ben Jeffrey helps his daughter Jill feed the fluffy sheep.Top Right: Claire and William, Minna Schleifenbaum's kids, with Jenny the Mule. Bottom Right: The Goat. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

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Highlander events

Getting wild about HHOA dinner

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association hosted a dinner and silent auction, rescheduled from March 23, at the Haliburton Legion April 11. A Henry Long Ranger .308 was up for raffle and a wide variety of donated items, from local businesses, in a silent auction, to help the HHOA raise money. The dinner featured both wild game, such as bear, moose, venison and others, as well as regular fan favourites, such as roast beef, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, and pork and beans. Chef Dan Johnson and his team put on the meal. Left: Looking down the buffet as the goods get served up. Right: Chef Dan Johnson bringing out one of the game meats. *Photos by Justin Belanger.*

FEDERAL ELECTION / MONDAY, APRIL 28
#ItsOurVote

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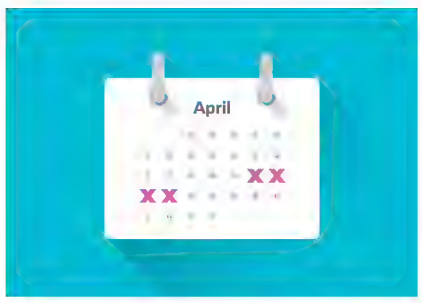
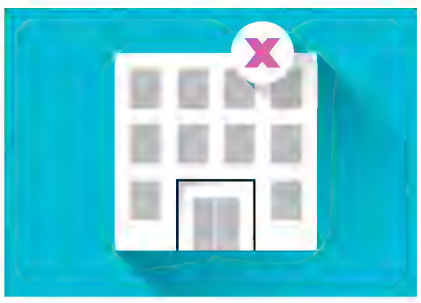
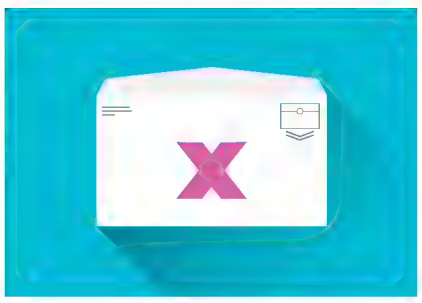


At your assigned advance polling station from Friday, April 18, to Monday, April 21, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.



At any Elections Canada office until Tuesday, April 22, 6 p.m.



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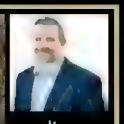

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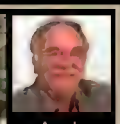

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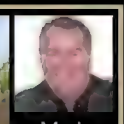

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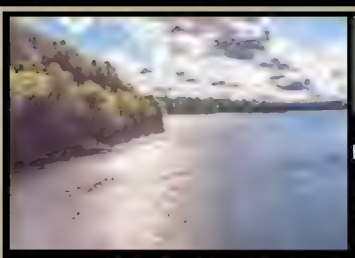

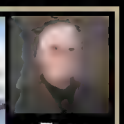

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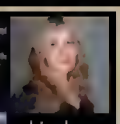

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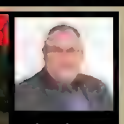

Andrew Hodgson** (705) 854-0130

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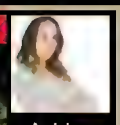

Ashley McKeigue* (705) 854-1833

Buckslide Road $545,000
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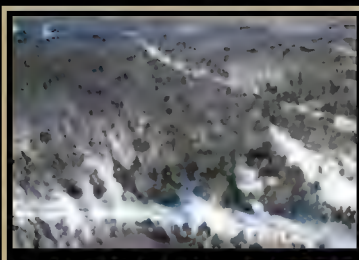

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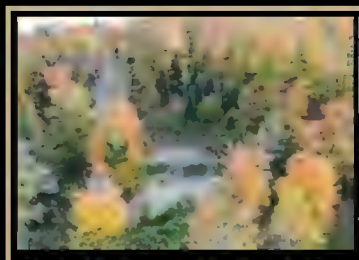

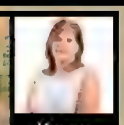

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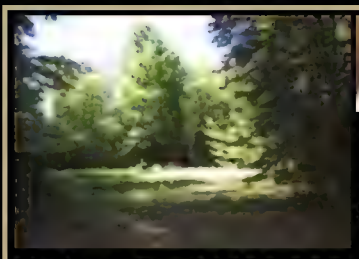

Christine Sharp* (416) 566-1592

Harburn Road $159,000
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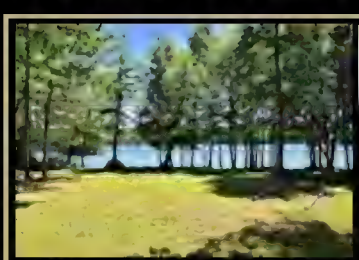

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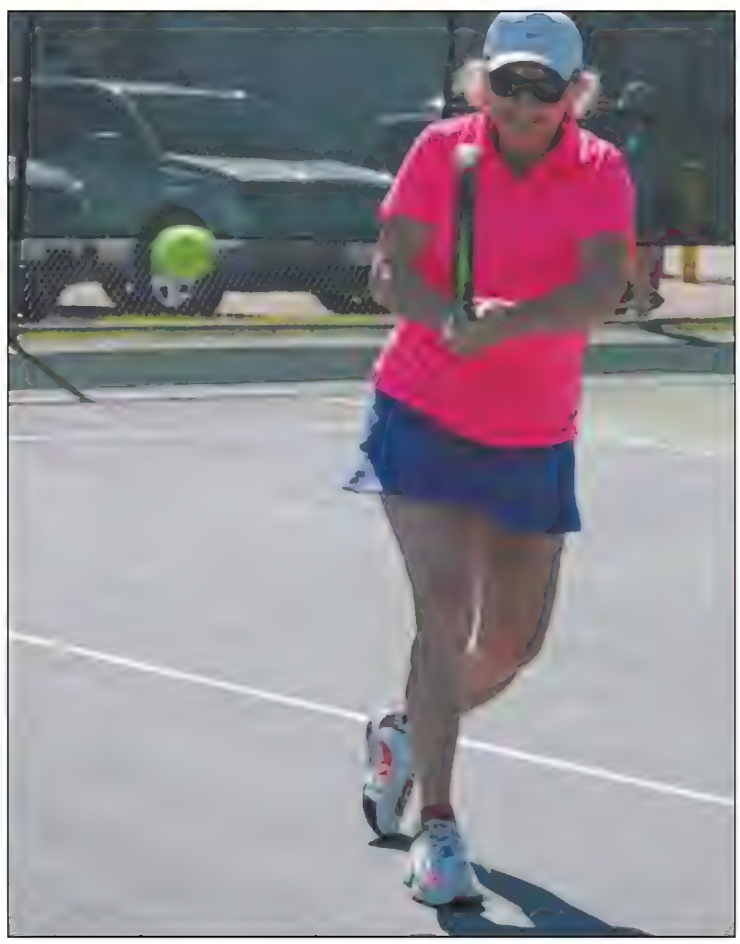

Left: Sharon Ferris and Joan Heath in their cart during a past OSGA 55+ games. Right: Marianne Fenninger returns a serve during a past OSGA 55+ games. *File.*

Time to register for Ontario Senior Games

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County is looking forward to hosting Ontario Senior Games Association (OSGA) 55+ District 11 games this summer.

They are open to men and women who are 55-plus years of age as of Dec 31, 2025.

They kick off with bid euchre, May 5 at 1 p.m. at the Minden Curling Club, at 50 Prentice St. in Minden. The local convenor is Beverly Johnson. As the district also comprises Muskoka, there will be bid euchre in Gravenhurst May 2.

Euchre then takes centre stage, May 12 at 1 p.m., at the Minden Curling Club, with Johnson convening this event as well. The Gravenhurst games are May 9.

There is a bowling event in Bracebridge on May 20.

May 21, at 1 p.m., sees five-pin bowling action at Minden Fast Lane Bowling, at 12281 Hwy. 35 in Minden. Larry Baadsvik is the convenor.

The Kinmount Legion, at 5074 Haliburton County Rd. 503 in Kinmount, provides the venue for cribbage, with play starting at noon May 29. Donna Teravainen is running the show.

The ever-popular pickleball will be held at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, at 55 Parkside St. in Minden, on June 3, kicking off at 8:30 a.m. Jennifer Coates is overseeing the action.

Tennis is next up, this event taking place June 10 from 8 a.m. at the Stanhope Courts, at 1123 North Shore Rd. in Algonquin Highlands. Marianne Fenninger is taking care of the organizing of this event.

For 18 holes of golf, seniors can sign up for June 11 at 9:30 a.m. for a round at the picturesque Blairhampton Golf Course at 1577 Duck Lake Rd. Minden. Jere Pike is the organizer.

Shuffleboard is in Gravenhurst, June 12 at 10 a.m.

The games wind up with walking/Nordic walking on June 13 at 9 a.m. from the Haliburton docks, on Highland Street in Haliburton. Jane Symons and Sharon Ferris are looking after this competition.

The deadline to register is two weeks before the event date. You must be an active OSGA member for the 2025 season. You have to join or renew your membership to take part. The membership fee is $15. There is also a District 11 participation fee of $10 to cover operational expenses associated with the games.

Spokesperson Jennifer Coates says the games are about being active and getting involved in the community.

Coates said folks should ask themselves, "do you have the time to have fun in a competitive, non-threatening setting? Are you seeking opportunities to socialize and meet new friends? Do you feel young and energetic?"

District game winners qualify for the provincials in Sudbury, Aug. 5-7.

Coates said they are also always looking for volunteers, new sports, and venues.

The games were incorporated in 1997 and there are traditionally 18-plus summer events and 10-plus winter events.

People can register online via osga55plus.ca

Contact Jennifer Coates at 705-749-3787 or jennifercoates148@gmail.com for information about the events or registration.

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The Huskies

The Huskies follow the play intently. *Photo by Justin Belanger*

Huskies ousted from eastern conference finals

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County Huskies head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay said he was "frustrated" by the four-to-one series loss to the Trenton Golden Hawks - that ended the team's best-ever season in Ontario Junior Hockey League (OJHL) action.

Trenton took the Huskies out on their home ice, 4-2, April 13 to end the eastern conference finals.

"Frustrated … happy it was a good season, but that was winnable," Ramsay said.

He felt most of his squad showed up for the finals, but not all, and "if we had all showed up, we would have won."

For example, Deandres De Jesus led the Huskies with 30 regular season goals, but was blanked in all 17 playoff games. "Just look at the production from some of your go-to guys with points," the coach added.

Ramsay felt the Golden Hawks were vulnerable to his Huskies team going in.

"It was literally right there. You look at the games, you're overtime 2-1, double overtime 3-2, like they're all one goal games, you take out the empty net ones. The last game at home, we hit three crossbars. We score on at least one of those, it's a 3-2 game for us and the pressure is on them. You have to have good goaltending to win. We had good goaltending."

On April 13, the Huskies were in it, tied 2-2 until 16:55 of the third period, on goals by Declan Bowmaster and Ty Petrou. But Isaiah Shantz broke their hearts. Trenton followed up with an empty netter.

On April 12, it was the same scoreline. It was another 2-2 game (Nathan Poole and Isaac Larmand scoring) before Trenton scored in the second to take the lead and finished it off with a late, third period goal.

The Huskies recorded their only win of the series April 10 in a thrilling 4-3 double overtime victory after Chase Lefebre scored with just 11 seconds left in regulation time; his second of the game. Kieran Litterick was the overtime hero.

On April 14, the players were busy cleaning out their lockers at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. With their home arena being converted to a warming centre in the aftermath of the ice storm, the Huskies had to move their home games to Haliburton.

The coach said the ice storm, and being relocated, created "lots of adversity" for his young team.

Ramsay acknowledged his players were "disappointed" in the result as well. "They knew that team was beatable. Fast forward to today (April 14) and we would have had home ice advantage in the finals."

While the loss still stings, Ramsay reflected on a 2024-2025 season that saw his club go further in the playoffs than it ever has.

He added, "this is the most wins in Whitby Fury-Huskies history. We were happy throughout the whole season; 40 wins, we've never reached that before. Tons of positives. We have four guys with Division 1 scholarships, 11 or 12 that played in the OHL. We're really one of the league's top franchises."

And the work does not stop. Rookie camp looms. And Ramsay reverts back more to his general manager role, figuring out what the 2025-2026 Huskies will look like with departing 20-year-olds and others.

"You get mentally tired but I love it. If I didn't love it, we wouldn't be doing it."

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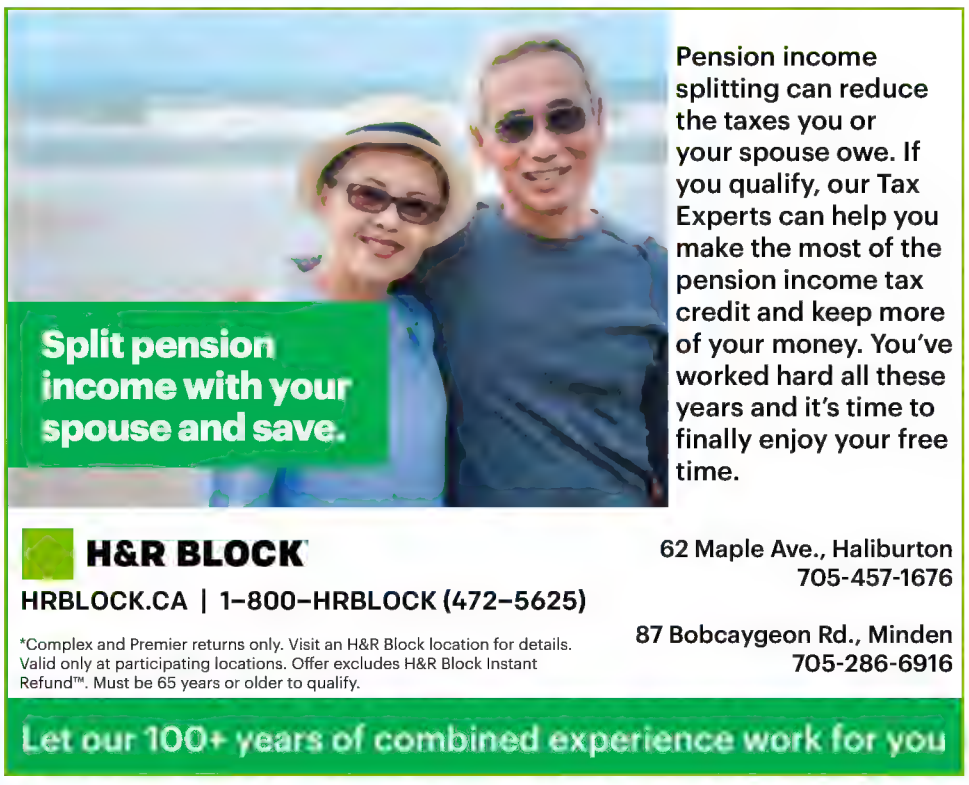
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The Huskies

Left: Nathan Poole taking an offensive zone face-off. Top Right: A young Huskies fan rips around the rink to get the crowd going. Bottom Right: Chase Del Colombo moves the puck into the offensive zone. *Photos by Justin Belanger*

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Home of the Highland Storm

U13 Casey's Water Well and Geothermal

The Highland Storm U13 Casey's Water Wells and Geothermal hockey team, a group of amazing athletes, has navigated a challenging season with grit and unwavering determination. They've demonstrated a strong team spirit, focusing on improvement and pushing their limits both on and off the ice.

This team consisted of a group of U13 players, as well as four U11 players that were moved up for the season. The senior players stepped up to the plate right away, leading and guiding the younger players to success. This was amazing to watch. It created such a positive team dynamic and allowed everyone to grow as a team.

The Storm consistently demonstrated strong skating skills, allowing them to control the puck and navigate the ice with speed and precision.

The team's defensive line, consisting of Patrick Valentini, Callum Merritt, Matthew Mueller, and Mackay Windover proved to be a strong foundation, effectively shutting down opposing attacks and controlling the puck in their own zone.

The team's offensive players, James Hamilton, Travis Mann, Claire Hamilton, Aiden Innes, Huxlee Campbell, Aliyah Cox, Nolan Frybort, and Nathan Hill showed their ability for creating scoring opportunities by passing the puck around and driving to the net.

The team's goalie, Gavin Suke, being the last line of defence showed his exceptional reflexes, quick reactions, and the ability to read the plays.

The team showcased their resilience and determination in many games and tournaments this year. In October, they attended the Bancroft Jets Mineral Capital Cup and came out as the "B" champs. They had an amazing season with a 17-5-1 record.

The U13 Yellow team is a testament to the power of teamwork, dedication, and perseverance. Their journey this season has been one of growth, resilience, and determination, setting the stage for a bright future. *(Submitted)*

U11 Carquest Minden

As the season has come to an end, we would like to start by thanking Carquest Minden for their continued support of Highland Storm hockey and sponsoring our team this year.

Every player on the team showed great improvement and development over the season and contributed to the success of the team. Hard work paid off making the semi-final round of the International Silver Stick Tournament in Haliburton and bringing home a silver medal from the Bradford Blue & Gold Tournament in January.

Supported in net by Julian Mardus and Isiah Young allowed us to be competitive in every game we played. Great defensive support by Abby Stancati, Giffin Hunt, Isiah Young, Tripp Meier, Brody Alton and Grayson Thomas.

Continuous effort up and down the ice with Raelyn Adlam, Gaelyn Mooney-Monster, Bentley Wilson, Chase Casella, Grayson Pelley, Penelope Irvine, and Wesley Branham along with centres Sebastian Dart, Parker Fessey and Cohen Carpenter

We would like to thank the leadership of the team, Grayson Thomas – captain, Cohen Carpenter – assistant and Parker Fessey – assistant, for helping the team along in their success.

The parents and bench staff are very proud of the team and their accomplishments and wish them all the best in the future. Congratulations to the players graduating to the next level and best of luck in U13, Raelyn Adlam, Brody Alton, Parker Fessey, Grayson Pelley and Grayson Thomas.

Shout out to the coaches, Garwood Thomas, Noah Adlam, Jordan Hunt and Sean Irvine for taking the time to work with the team in their development and to all the parents for the support and loud cheers. *(Submitted)*

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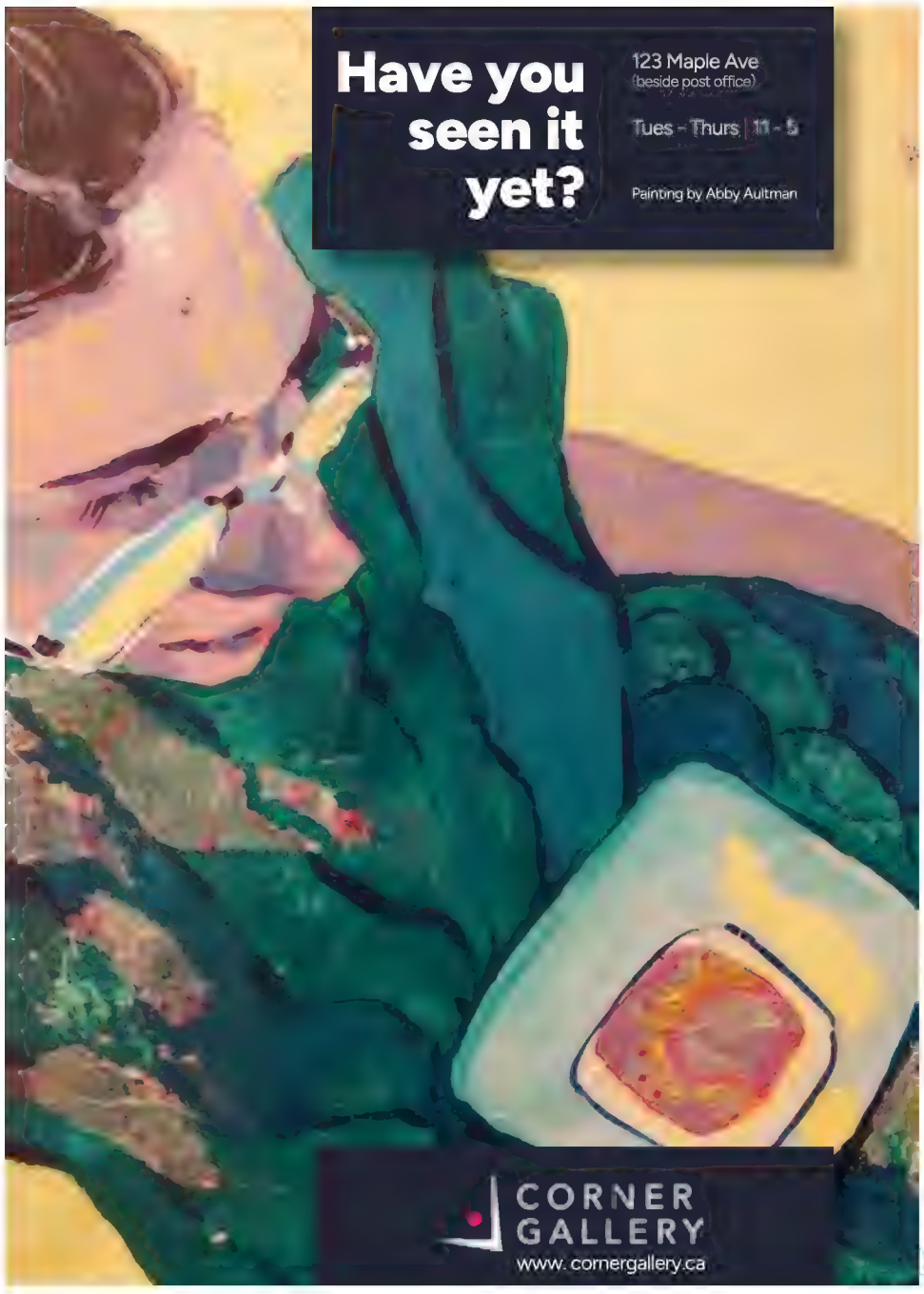
Caring for community

Three executive members of 100 Women Who Care Haliburton, Marg Cox, Tina Palmer and Pat Bradley, along with a group of members, met Jennifer Semach, founding executive director of Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Association Inc. and a group of program participants (Shellie Preston, Kelsey Barnum, Jay Kitchener and Brad Trumball. Also pictured is Gracie, the therapeutic horse) at Walkabout Farms to present them with $10,800, the proceeds of the March 19 meeting. *Submitted.*



Open House

Thursday, May 1st
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Enjoy an afternoon with friends at our Spring Open House while enjoying live entertainment, tea and goodies.
Tour our residence and meet our passionate team to discover all we have to offer.

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GARDENS OF HALIBURTON

What's on

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton
Mondays: Bridge at 1 p.m. in the Schofield Room. Youth darts league, for ages 10 to 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the clubroom. All are welcome.
Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m in the clubroom. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30-9 p.m. between September and June.
Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, Remembrance Hall. Bingo 5 p.m. doors open, 7 p.m. start time, Remembrance Hall. Snack bar available – French fries and hot dogs available while supplies last.
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month.
Fridays: meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards. 50/50 draw at 5 p.m, tickets are $1 and available in the clubroom.
Saturdays: Open only for special events
Clubroom hours: Monday 3-9 p.m., Tues 5-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday closed.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for rental information call Cheryl Waller at 905- 447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com/facility-rentals Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129…everyone is welcome!

The Legion's mandate is to help veterans, assist with their mental and physical health and social wellbeing, provide a feeling of togetherness and combat isolation. All are welcome to attend our events.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden
Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Monday to Thursday** with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' **Tuesday.**

Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.

Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.

Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541

Weekly activities:
Karaoke: call for dates
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week.
Monday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce
Mondays: open 7 to 10 p.m.
Tuesdays: closed
Wednesdays: open 2 to 6 p.m.
Thursdays: open 2 to 10 p.m.
Fridays: open 2 to 11 p.m.
Saturdays: open 2 to 9 p.m.
Sundays: closed, special events only

Darts at 7 p.m. April 21 and 28 Cost is $5 per player. Afternoon sessions are April 23 and 30 starting at 2 p.m. Cost is $4 per player.

We have suspended our cornhole league.

HHHS social recreation April 24 at 10 a.m.

Fish and chips April 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is $15 for one piece, $20 for two pieces.

Wings and jam session April 25 from 5 to 8 p.m. Cost is $15 per pound.

Seniors 55+ lunch April 25 at noon. Cost is $17 per person

Meat draw April 19 and 26 at 3 p.m.

Soc Hop dance at the legion, featuring music from the 1950s and 1960s April 26, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Door charge is $5.

Call the legion for more information at 705-448-2221.

EVENTS

Drop into any branch of the Haliburton County Public Library during April to vote for your favourite 'Forest of Reading' book and receive a fun button. There is still time to read more books, voting closes April 30. Visit haliburtonlibrary.ca for more information.

Stedman's Department Store in Minden is hosting its second annual Easter colouring draw, with five prize baskets up for grabs. There will be prizes for children aged 12 and under, teens 13 to 16, and anyone aged 17 and up. Pictures are available for pick-up at the store any time before April 18, with the draw taking place that day at noon. All submissions will be displayed in the window once received.

April 17, 5 to 8 p.m. The Haliburton School of Art + Design is hosting a 'We Made It!' student exhibition at its campus inside Glebe Park. Showcasing creations from winter semester programs. Taking place in the great hall.

April 19, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It's the Easter weekend 44th annual Maple Syrup Festival in Wilberforce. Taking place at the Lloyd Watson Centre. All-you-can-eat pancakes and sausages, kids 10 and under are $4, adults $8. There will also be a bazaar and craft tables. For more information, call 705-448-1285 or email skrogers1995@gmail.com.

April 19, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. It's Easter at Abbey Gardens. Your adventure starts with an Easter egg hunt on the Chickadee Trail and continues with cookie decorating, pictures with the Easter Bunny, spring-time crafts and more. Abbey Gardens is located at 1012 Garden Gate Drive, Dysart et al.

April 22, 7 p.m. Environment Haliburton! is hosting an Earth Day event featuring a presentation from two Trent University students who investigated how artificial light impacts eco-systems. They will present findings from a study conducted at Paudash Lake. Register at environmenthaliburton.org.

April 23, 7 p.m. The Haliburton Highlands Green Burial Society is holding its annual general meeting in-person at Haliburton United Church. Featuring a presentation from Haliburton Master Gardner Carolyn Langdon. Also available via Zoom. Meeting ID: 883 6972 6653, pass code: 211977.

April 24, 7:30 p.m. Community theatre troupe Ctrl-ART-Del is hosting Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. Recommended for audiences 13 and up. Tickets available at concordtheatricals.com. There are other performances April 25 and 26.

April 26, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Kinmount Garden Club is running a 'Seedy Saturday' at the Kinmount Library, offering free seeds for vegetables, flowers and herbs for people to take home. There will be people available offering gardening advice, with plants and gardening books for sale by donation. Proceeds support programming at the Kinmount library. There will be kids crafts for children.

April 26, 6 p.m. Camp Medeba is hosting a 'Not-So-Silent Auction' at the camp located at 1270 Kennisis Lake Rd. Doors open at 6 p.m. with live bidding beginning at 7 p.m. Can't make it in person? Attend online via Zoom. RSVP at info@medeba.com.

Light Recycling
Dysart ratepayers can drop off light bulbs and tubes for recycling at Haliburton, Harcourt, and West Guilford Landfills during regular operating hours.

☑Accepted: light bulbs and tubes, including incandescent, compact fluorescent, fluorescent tubes, halogen, HID, LED, UV.
☒Not accepted: lighting fixtures, ballasts, string lights.
Landfill Attendants will direct you to the correct drop-off area.
Municipality of Dysart et al
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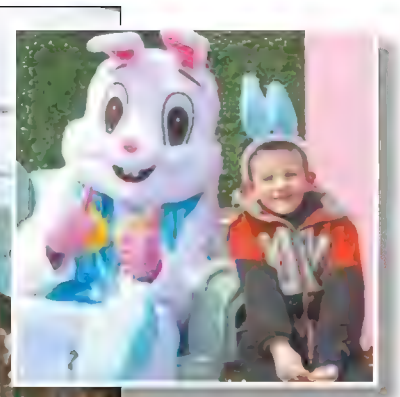
What's on



Abbey Gardens is welcoming guests for its Easter extravaganza April 19. *File*

Celebrating Easter at Abbey Gardens

By Mike Baker

The Easter Bunny is slated to make a special appearance in Haliburton County this weekend, pitching up at Abbey Gardens April 19.

As is tradition, the Highlands destination is hosting its popular Easter at the Gardens event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, with a full lineup of family-friendly fun according to executive director, Angela Kruger.

"We are excited to kick off our 2025 event season [with] this family favourite for our community," said Kruger.

The adventure begins with an Easter egg hunt on the Chickadee Trail, where children are challenged to collect as many eggs as they can. After finding five eggs, kids can check in with Abbey Gardens staff to collect a prize bag filled with goodies, Kruger said.

There will also be crafts, cookie decorating, photos with the Easter bunny, and an opportunity to meet Maple and Sammy, Ojibwe horses, and Flapjack, a Mini Appaloosa horse, who all live in a paddock at Abbey Gardens.

The event is divided into two timeslots, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., which Kruger said is to allow as many participants as possible. Registration is encouraged, with about half of the available slots already taken. The cost is $15 per child.

There will be a festival food snack bar running during the day, with other options available at Abbey Gardens' food hub. New this year, attendees can pre-order a four-person dinner-to-go complete with pot pie and carrot cake.

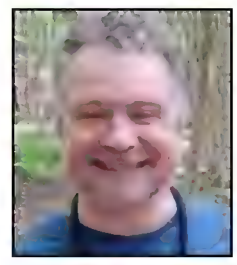
Once an operational gravel pit, the 310-plus acre Abbey Gardens site now stands as a haven for sustainability, environmental protection, and nature-based programming. Kruger said it's the place to be in the County this weekend.

"Everybody, after such a long winter, is excited to get outside and enjoy the beautiful surroundings that Haliburton has. That's what we're all about at Abbey Gardens – getting families outside and immersed in nature, offering fun activities and giving people the chance to make incredible memories together as a family," Kruger said.

For more information, or to book your place, visit abbeygardens.ca/easter.

ADVERTORIAL

Are you a lake legacy leader?



By Simon Payn

There's something magical about those moments at the lake – the call of a loon, the gentle lap of waves, the flash of a bass. These experiences connect us to our lakes in ways that run soul-deep. They're stories we transmit across generations.

But here's the thing: these experiences depend on healthy lakes. And healthy lakes depend on natural shorelines.

This is where you come in. The most forward-thinking cottage owners are establishing themselves as 'Lake Legacy Leaders' – people who understand that how we treat our shorelines today shapes the lakes our grandchildren inherit tomorrow.

I've noticed a shift in what impresses people around our lakes. The manicured lawn rolling down to a hardscaped shoreline is giving way to something more sophisticated – naturalized shorelines that work with nature rather than against it.

These contemporary shorelines don't have to be messy or haphazard; they're thoughtfully designed plant communities that showcase ecological understanding in action. They're a different kind of sophistication which show you 'get it'.

There's something deeply satisfying about creating a legacy that extends beyond our time at the lake.

Science and sense

The science is compelling. A 30-metre vegetated buffer can remove up to 85% of pollutants and excess nutrients from runoff. When you consider 80-90% of lake life depends on shoreline habitat, you begin to see why natural shorelines matter so much.

"But what about my view and lake access?" The good news is naturalization doesn't mean sacrificing either. It's about designing intelligently – creating viewing corridors, winding paths to the water, and selecting varied-height plants. A natural shoreline brings more wildlife directly to your property, adding to your experience without sacrificing views.

Let's talk investment, because that matters too. Studies show that for every additional foot of water clarity, property values in Cottage Country can increase by approximately 2%. Your naturalized shoreline contributes directly to this clarity by filtering runoff before it reaches the lake. Meanwhile, those dense root systems provide superior erosion protection compared to lawns – especially important as we face more extreme weather.

There's something deeply satisfying about creating a legacy that extends beyond your time at the lake. Imagine a child's eyes lighting up as they discover a turtle nesting in a restored shoreline, or spot the blue of an Indigo Bunting attracted by native plants. These moments create connections that shape how the next generation will care for our lakes.

You don't need to transform your entire shoreline at once. Start with a demonstration area – perhaps 10 feet wide. Choose native plants that thrive in local conditions and plant them densely in layers, just as nature does.

Each native plant you add contributes to a healthier lake and a more valuable property. More importantly, it establishes you as someone who understands that true sophistication means protecting what we all value most. Your actions create ripples – both in your lake and in your community – as others witness what's possible when we work with nature rather than against it.

Those who recognize a naturalized shoreline isn't just good environmental stewardship – it's the new standard for thoughtful cottage ownership. These pioneers are actively shaping the future of our lakes. Will you be part of this legacy?

Simon Payn is the owner of Haliburton-based natural garden company, Grounded. To find out more, visit groundedgardens.ca.

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EVENT

EVENT - Norwood Country Jamboree - July 17-20. Tickets available at Wilson Tire & Battery, Lindsay or 1-800-954-9998

Township of Algonquin Highlands

Township of Algonquin Highlands

We are currently accepting resumes for the following position:

Digital Transformation Coordinator

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the complete job description.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday May 1, 2025 to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay,
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

Township of Algonquin Highlands

Township of Algonquin Highlands

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from qualified individuals for the following position.

Public Works Supervisor

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the complete job description.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and resume by **3:00 pm on April 24, 2025** to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1S0
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca

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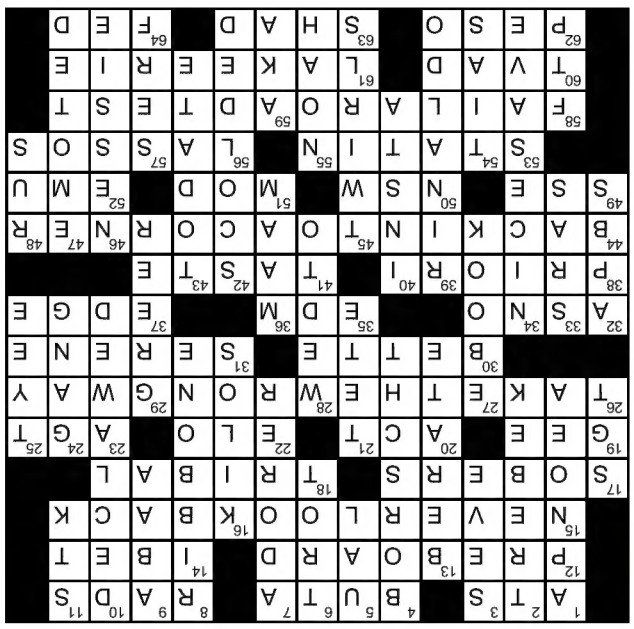
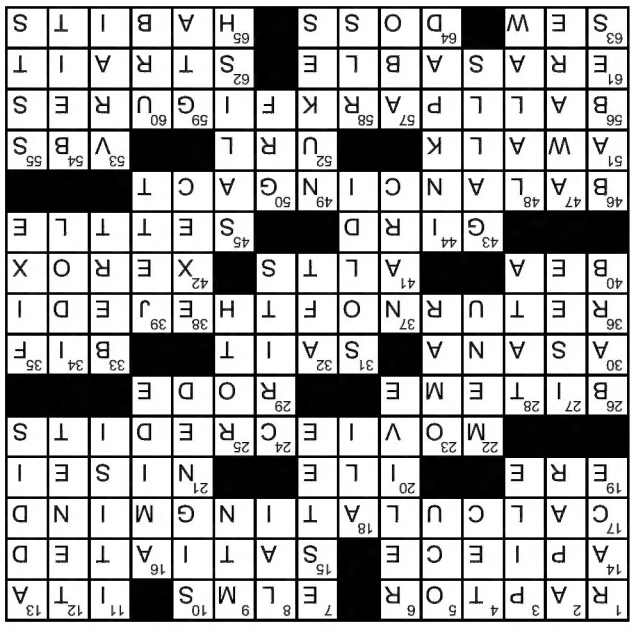
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS



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1	8	7	4	6	9	5	2	3
4	3	2	7	8	5	1	9	6
5	6	9	3	2	1	8	7	4

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Ellen Jane Alton
(nee Kent)

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Friday, April 11, 2025 at the age of 89.

Ellen is now with the love of her life Herb after 56 years apart. Dear mother of Donelda, Doug, Cheryl (Mark), Beatrice (Brock), Paul (Tammy), Tammy (Joe) and predeceased by Judy 2008 and Donnie 2017. Loving grandmother of Darlene, Herb, Jason (Lisa), Rod (Paige), Jeremy (Audrina), Mike (Jessica), Travis and great grandmother of Amber, Austin, Zander, Spencer, Lucas, Hunter, Athena, Melissa and great great grandmother of Cole. Predeceased by her 10 brothers and sisters. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Thursday, April 17, 2025 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Ellen's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre. Spring Interment at the Minden Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

Cheryl Cohoon
(Resident of Haliburton)

We are deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved Cheryl Anne Cohoon on Wednesday, April 2, 2025.

The beloved daughter of Anne and Ken Cohoon. Cheryl is now at peace, reunited with her father, who passed away before her. She was a dedicated mother to Christopher and a beloved sister to Jesse and Nancy. Cheryl also touched the lives of her nieces and nephews, including Eric (Tracey), Jodi, Andrea (Natasha), and her great-niece and nephew, Leia and Cade. She was a cherished godmother to Zachary and Renn.

Cheryl's exceptional singing talents enriched St. George's Anglican Church. Her vibrant presence was felt in the community's music, dance, theatre, and art circles, and she was a committed volunteer at Highland Wood. Her bright spirit will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the many friends and professionals who offered compassion and support to Cheryl throughout her life, with special thanks to her angels—Judith, Brenda, Zack, Renn, and Uta.

Private Funeral Arrangements

A Celebration of Cheryl's life will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations in Cheryl's memory can be made to the Highland Woods Residents' Council, The Anglican Parish of Haliburton, or to a charity of your choice. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME**
13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
(705) 457-9209

Judith "Judy" Hillier
(nee Ireland)

(Resident of Little Glamor Lake (Little Bear Lake) Haliburton)

Judy received her wings March 15, 2025. In her 79th year after suffering a massive heart attack following knee replacement surgery the preceding day.

Born in Toronto, August 20, 1946, Judy was the second born and cherished daughter of Herb & Ruth Ireland. Judy was predeceased by our precious daughter Tricia Anne Hillier-McGarrigle (11-26-1970 to 03-24-2005), her parents Herb and Ruth Ireland and her younger sister, Susan (2019).

Judy is survived by her loving and grateful husband Roger of 56 years, her adored grandson's Ryan and Matthew McGarrigle, her older sister Carolyn Whittle (George) and Younger sister Jane Lawrence (Brian). She will be lovingly remembered by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, cousins, neighbours and friends.

Judy was a Secretary for the N.M. Davis Corp (Chainway Stores Div.) She was a stay at home mom until the mid 80's when she learned to drive and then returned to the workforce and became Manager of Cedar Heights Post Office until we retired in 1996. We worked together, shoulder to shoulder, side by side, to build our retirement house on LGL, but it was Judy and Judy alone that made it a loving home.

She loved music and loved to dance to Rock and Roll and slow love song ballads, until the arthritis in her knees made it impossible to do so. We always ended the dance evening with " I Can't Help Falling in Love With You " by Elvis or the "Last Waltz" by Engelbert. She often said, that it was music and her treadmill that got her through after our daughters death. When she was cooking and baking the stereo was always blasting 50's music. Her roast beef dinners, pies, cookies and cakes were to be admired and envied, and no one ever left her table hungry. She cherished every moment she spent cooking with Her Grandsons. She was an avid reader, gardener, and oh how she loved to go on shopping sprees with Linda Dawkins and Kim Armstrong. Judy truly believed that, " It is more blessed to give than to receive" as her generosity new no bounds. She had an unwavering and undying love of her family, her kindness towards others, and her love for all creatures both great and small. She had the uncanny ability to forgive and accept the wrongdoings of others while still moving forward. She was a very private person, but if she opened her heart and accepted you as a friend, you could rest assured that you were her friend for life. Her positive attitude towards life motivated those closest to her even when she was in severe pain with the arthritis that plagued her knees. She so looked forward to the day she would be pain free so she could return to doing the things that she loved.

We met at a New Years Eve Party in 1967, were engaged May 67 and married on Thanksgiving Weekend October 11, 1969. She has been my Wife, the love of my life, my confidant, my rock and my best friend ever since. My life will never be the same without her. I'll end with the expression I would say to her at night. Good night Sweetie, I love you.

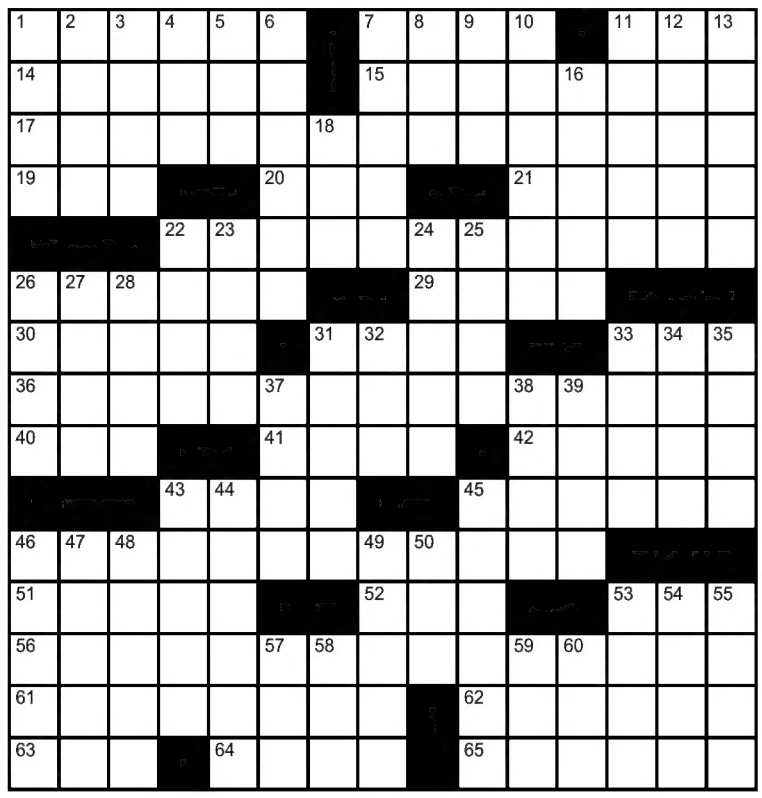
Private Funeral Arrangements

As per Judy's wishes, cremation has taken place and she will be interred in a niche next to her precious daughter Tricia at Resthaven Memorial Gardens,. A celebration of Judy's life will be held at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations in Judy's memory can be made to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, or to any other charitable organization dealing with abused women. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy #118 Haliburton, ON (705) 457-9209.

Highlander puzzles

These Are Taxing Times

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords



Across

1 Toronto NBA player
7 Coffin wood sources, once
11 "Give ___ whirl"
14 Per unit
15 All full
17 Mathematical asset for a tax report preparer?
19 Palindromic conjunction
20 "___ de l'amour" (Quebec reality show)
21 Second generation Japanese
22 Pluses on an actor's tax report?
26 Sassy retort
29 Went by pinto or Pinto
30 Yoga term meaning "seat" in Sanskrit
31 Calgary trade sch.
33 Canadian singer ___ Naked
36 Tax report filed by "Star Wars" knights?
40 She played Maude and Dorothy
41 Stand-ins: Abbr.
42 Copyrighted "copy"
43 ___ one's loins
45 Resolve out of court
46 Job of matching income with expenses on a tax report?
51 Take ___ on the wild side
52 "www" address
53 "Action" words: Abbr.
56 Entries on Rogers Centre's tax report?
61 Possible to rub out
62 Narrow stretch of sea
63 Hem but not haw
64 Crude bed, in British dialect
65 They're taken up or given up

Down

1 Fable event resulting in hare loss?
2 On ___ with (equal)
3 Carpet thickness
4 Crime investigator, slangily
5 Eye-related prefix
6 Experience again
7 Competitor of Christian and Coco
8 "Love Story" composer Francis
9 K2, e.g: Abbr.
10 Wrote on the dotted line
11 Reply to "Who goes there?"
12 Core belief
13 ___ Ababa, Ethiopia
16 Novocain compound
18 Comedian Wong or Hassan
22 Restaurant reading material
23 CTV news anchor Sachedina
24 Lit ___ (book reviewers)
25 "Portnoy's Complaint" author Philip
26 Cow poke, perhaps?
27 More subdued "aha!"
28 Bristol "bye-bye"
31 Copper coins of old Italy
32 Stern, at sea
33 Shirtless standup comic Kreischer
34 "Canadian ___" (TV singing competition)
35 Word after "idée" or "prix"
37 Worker with a sniffer dog
38 Corner office VIP
39 "I Love Rock 'n' Roll" singer Joan
43 Infuriates
44 Item near a teller's stamp
45 Indigenous people of Vancouver Island
46 ___ in the woods (naive ones)
47 Given the lowdown
48 Dey drama set in Calif.
49 Does a quick warm up, in a way
50 Nixon's successor, initially
53 Opposite of "faux"
54 ___ resolved that ... (debate intro)
55 Super speedy jets: Abbr.
57 Blood-typing syst.
58 "Treasure Island" writer's monogram
59 Ontario's capital and surroundings
60 Word form meaning "city"

DONATE TODAY!

Brandon Nimigon is jumping in a FREEZING LAKE and he needs your support!

Every donation, big or small, helps the 4C's Food Bank & Lily Ann Thrift Store support local programs and services that make a real difference. Let's show what community spirit can do!

Thank you in advance for your support — and wish me luck (and warmth) for the jump!

Donation link: https://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/go-jump-in-the-lake-2025/

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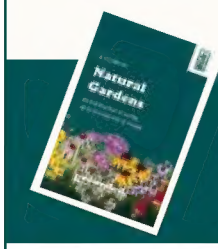

For a free guide to natural gardens in Haliburton County, visit groundedgardens.ca.

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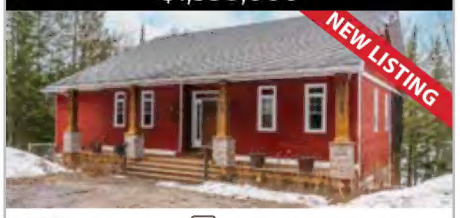
When Spring brings blooms and buyers,
we bring our wealth of
experience and expertise.

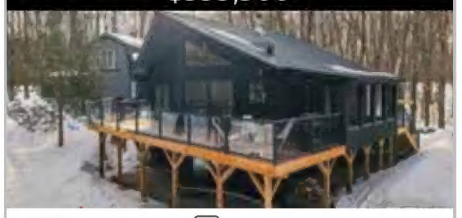
BAUMGARTNER B|R REALTY GROUP

DRAG LAKE
$1,350,000



4X BED | 3X BATH | MLS X12077965

EAGLE LAKE
$999,900



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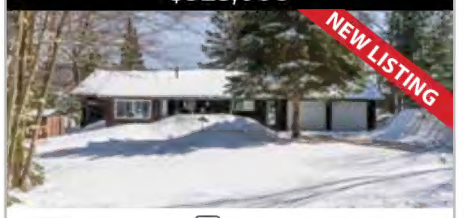
HALIBURTON LAKE
$925,000



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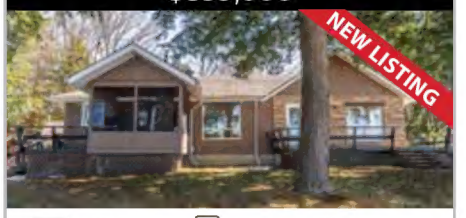
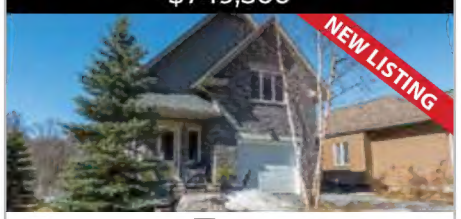
TAIT LAKE, BANCROFT
$899,000



4X BED | 2X BATH | MLS X12071143

SILVER BEACH
$749,500



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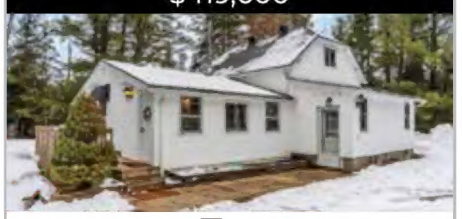
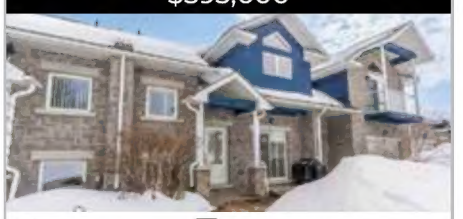
MINDEN
$419,000



2X BED | 2X BATH | MLS X12045690

SILVER BEACH
$595,000



3X BED | 3X BATH | MLS X12019003

OAKVIEW CO-LIVING
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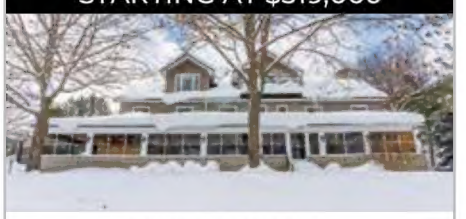
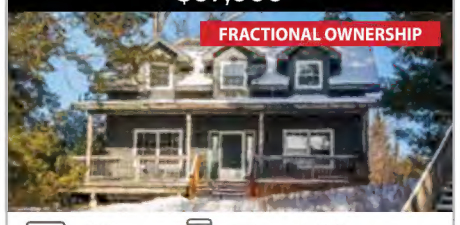


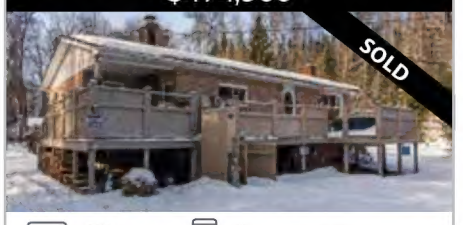
3 UNITS AVAILABLE
UNIT 1, 2 AND 4

CHANDLER POINT
$67,000



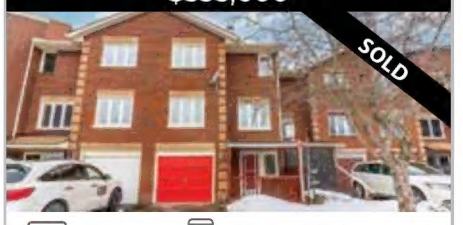
3X BED | 2X BATH | MLS X11884689

HIGHLAND GROVE
$474,900



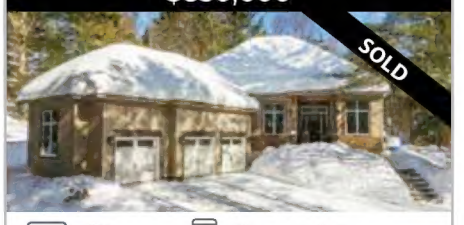
3X BED | 1X BATH | MLS X10437756

PARKSIDE STREET
$335,000



3X BED | 2X BATH | MLS X12048224

GOODERHAM
$850,000



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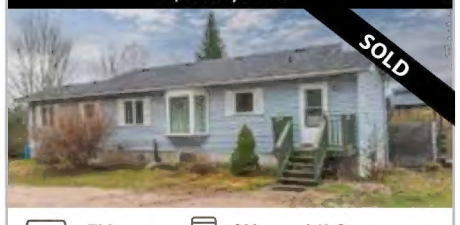
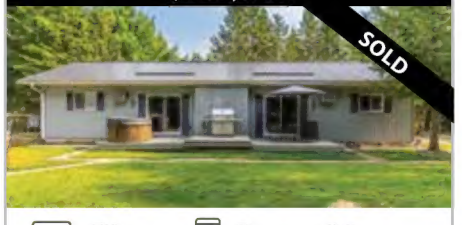
GELERT ROAD
$575,000



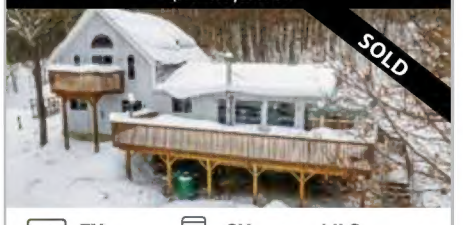
3X BED | 2X BATH | MLS X12009789

GULL RIVER
$759,900



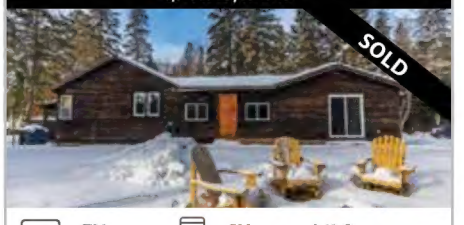
5X BED | 3X BATH | MLS X10434162

KUSHOG LAKE
$549,900



3X BED | 2X BATH | MLS X11959957

BLACK RIVER/DRAG LAKE
$499,000



3X BED | 1X BATH | MLS X10435688

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Bethel Road
MLS X11955874
$178,000
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SOLD

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MLS X12034950
$149,900
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MLS X10437016
$109,000
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Wenona Lake Road
MLS X11953943
$95,000
0.42 Acres

Lot 7 Broadleaf Road
MLS X11985022
$50,000
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Lot 8 Broadleaf Road
MLS X11985025
$50,000
1.48 Acres
SOLD

Lot 10 Broadleaf Road
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$50,000
1.77 Acres
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Lot 11 Broadleaf Road
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